A limited number of berths on trains originating from or passing through stations in the Delhi area has been earmarked as emergency quota for dealing with High Official Requisitions and other emergent requests. This quota is jointly controlled by Ministry of Railways and Northern Railway. The number of berths against this quota varies from train to train depending upon the total number of reserved berths available at any particular time, the number of trains run for the same destination, the demand from other sectors viz. Defence, Foreign Tourists, Parliament, etc.

(c) and (d) The emergency quota is normally released taking into account factors like status of the passenger travelling, nature of urgency of travel like bereavement sickness in the family, etc.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The work relating to release of emergency quota is a specialised job and does not require dealing with cash.

Reservation Quota of Berths and Seats of the Minister

3646. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of providing reservation of berths and seats from Railway Board's quota has been handled by Personal staff of the Minister in the past;

(b) whether such arangement was made to avoid any chance of manipulation and favouritism by staff dealing with this work;

(c) whether Government propose to revive the same practice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Action Plan to clear Housing Backlog in Delhi

3647. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently drawn up three pronged action Programme to clear housing back-log in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c whether Government propose to ensure that registrants with DDA under various schemes are allotted flats within a span of two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to implement the same ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Delhi Administration has taken up the formulation of a plan to augment housing for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year Plan and implementation during the Plan period.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Raids on the premises of edible oil manufacturers

3648. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government in its efforts agianst hoarding and blackmarketing have recently conducted some raids on the premises of edible oil manufacturers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these raids have in anyway improved the availability of essential commodities in the market;

(d) whether these raids have also helped to control the rising prices of essential commodities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Recently searches and surveys on the premises of manufacturers and dealers of edible oils were made in terms of the provisions of Income Tax Act, at several places in the country. As per information available so far, 263 searches/surveys were conducted. Excess stock of oil of Rs. 33.04